



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/662,449	09/16/2003	Toshimasa Takaki	P24215	2505

7055 7590 04/07/2006

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE
RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER

PARDO, THUY N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2165

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/662,449

Applicant(s)

TAKAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Thuy Pardo

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/13/04, 8/5/05, 9/12/05
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-12 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. For instance, the content of these claims does not produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result. It is only limited to abstract ideas and it does not constitute a statutory process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter in which the statutory process must result in a physical transformation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Art Unit: 2165

3. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hillis et al. (Hereinafter "Hillis") US Patent Application No. 2005/0086188.

As to claim 1, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising a database that holds more than one component [fig. 2; 0116; 0118; 0205], and applying said component to a read file and executing processing [see fig. 9 and 10], wherein said database includes a type determining function that determines a component suitable for the processing based on file information of the file [0354-0357].

As to claim 2, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches that every component holds said type determining function inside [fig. 9; view, edit, lock, upload, help...etc, fig. Fig.15-17].

As to claim 3, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches that said database holds a determining function entry that indicates a reference of said type determining function [fig. 9; view, edit, lock, upload, help...etc, fig. Fig.15-17].

As to claim 4, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches that said determining function entry is associated and held with a component in a pair of one and one [0357; 0359].

As to claim 5, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches determining means for searching out components suitable for processing from among components held in said database, wherein said determining means reads said determining function entry from said database, reads the type determining function that said determining function entry indicates as a reference, and applies file information of the file subject to the processing to said determining function and determines said file information [0366].

As to claim 6, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches a processing section that implements intended processing by reading and assembling the components searched out by said determining means, wherein control means, comprised in said processing section, reads and notifies file information of an output file of said components to said determining means and enables selection of components suitable for next processing of said output file [0368-0369].

As to claim 7, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches a component configuration database that memorizes configuration patterns of components configured earlier, and configuration pattern search means that searches out a configuration pattern suitable for the processing from among the memorized configuration patterns [0366-0369].

As to claim 8, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches download means that can be connected to a database server via a network, said database server

Art Unit: 2165

storing components, wherein, when the components included in a configuration pattern do not exist in said database, said download means acquires necessary components from said database server [0260; 214-217 of fig. 11].

As to claim 9, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches that said download means acquires said necessary components from a recording medium that is connected to said data processing apparatus and that accommodates components [fig. 9-10].

As to claim 10, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches that when said download means acquires a new component, the acquired component is stored in said database, and information that indicates a storage destination for said component is held in said component configuration database [0196-0197].

As to claim 11, Hillis teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Hillis further teaches determining function and obtaining a result indicating applicability or non-applicability [0336-0345].

As to claim 12, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis above, and this claim is rejected on that basis.

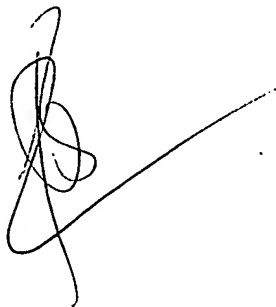
Art Unit: 2165

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo whose telephone number is 571-272-4082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

March 31, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Thuy N. Pardo', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**THUY N. PARDO
PRIMARY EXAMINER**